Hospet, Rayadrug, Alur, Siruguppa and Bellary under the discretion given them by the rule referred to have postponed the collection of certain amounts to fasli 1340. The effect of such postponement is that the amounts originally due in March and April 1930 will not be due now until March and April 1931 and the remaining instalments of the loans in question, including that due in 1340, are each postponed by one year, no interest being charged for the year for which such instalment is postponed. The Government consider that no further relief is necessary.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the system of takavi loan, as gathered from various reports, has been a very unhappy one and whether in view of that is he prepared to write off the loans ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" We cannot write off all these loans at present."

Jails

Number of persons convicted for political offences from March to October 1930.

* 18 *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of persons convicted for political offences in all the courts of the Presidency from March to October 1930 districtwar and in the City of Madras, with the sections under which they were convicted ;

(*b*) the number of convictions against which appeals were launched, the number of such appeals confirmed by the Appellate Courts, the number of such appeals in which the sentence of the lower Court was quashed or revised or in which a retrial was ordered ;

(*c*) the number of persons placed in each class of prisoners by the convicting Magistrate ; and

(*d*) instances of the classification ordered by the Magistrates having been revised by the Government either on appeal on behalf of the prisoners or on notice by the Government ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) The Government have no information, but they have called for it.

(*d*) The Government have revised the classification in about 176 cases.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to clause (*d*) of the question requiring instances of the classification ordered by the Magistrates, the answer given is 'the Government have revised the classification in about 176 cases'. Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to lay on the table the names of prisoners in whose cases classification has been changed ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Does my hon. Friend want that information with reference to all the 176 cases ? "

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" I want only instances of classification of cases in addition to the number."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Yes, that is exactly what I want to know from my hon. Friend. Does my hon. Friend want to know the names of the individuals in all the 176 case in which Government have interfered or only in some selected cases out of the 176?"

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether the 176 cases do not include the names of the most respected members of this Council, namely, Mr. Bikkana Venkataratnam and some presidents of taluk boards and chairmen of municipal councils, in whose cases classification has been changed by Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Yes, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether the Government are convinced that the discretion of the Collectors was right in classifying those people as they did?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"In some cases, Government thought that the Collectors were right and in other cases, where the Government thought that the Collectors were wrong, they interfered."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"Did the Government circularise all the Collectors to exercise their discretion properly in future cases?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"According to the orders of the Government of India, Collectors are required to use their discretion and that order has been communicated to all the District Magistrates."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether the Government are convinced that, in the case of Mr. Bikkana Venkataratnam, the Collector exercised his discretion properly?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I do not remember that particular case."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—"Is the hon. Member aware of the fact that certain orders of District Magistrates were set aside in two cases by the orders of the High Court, especially as regards the wearing of caps?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Oh, yes, I am aware of it."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"May I know whether there is any difference in the diet between the different classes of prisoners?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I have no objection to answer that question, but I do not know how that question arises out of this. There is of course difference between the diet that is supplied to this class of prisoners and others."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"May I know whether 'C' class prisoners are provided with buttermilk?"

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The hon Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" As an experiment a thousand prisoners in the Alipuram jail, on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Prisons, are being given buttermilk instead of split dhal and Government are now watching the result of that experiment."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Experiment to test what theory, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Experiment to see whether this supply of buttermilk adds to or reduces the weight of the prisoners."

Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether he is aware of the fact that buttermilk is an indispensable item of diet for all Indians ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I am aware that is an ordinary item of diet of some Indians, and I am also aware that it is not an indispensable item in the diet of all Indians."

Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu :—" Are ' C ' class prisoners given oil for bath ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Women are given oil for their hair."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know for how long has this experiment been in force ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the hon. Member that cases of dysentery among ' C ' class prisoners is due to the non-supply of buttermilk ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know from the hon. Law Member whether ' C ' class prisoners are persons who in the opinion of the Government are fit subjects to be experimented upon ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" My hon. Friend is thoroughly mistaken in thinking that there is any distinction between one class of ' C ' class prisoners and another class of ' C ' class prisoners. Neither the Government nor the Jail authorities make any distinction between ' C ' class prisoners themselves."

Khan Sahib Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that buttermilk is very conducive to health, that it is advocated by all medical authorities not only in India but also all over the world and that it promotes longevity as well ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I am very sorry, that I am not a medical expert."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" Has the Government given effect to the orders of the High Court in every case other than those appealed against ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I do not find anything about it in this question."